

## AGILITY LINK NOVELTY CORRESPONDENCE SERIES

# RULES

Latest reprint: May 2020

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**Each Club must nominate a NALA Link co-ordinator(s). It is the Club Link co-ordinator's responsibility to ensure these rules are adhered to.**

### 1. ELIGIBILITY.

Only Agility Link subscribers are eligible to have scores recorded for Interclub or individual dog competition. Agility Link subscribers may have scores recorded for any dog they handle. Clubs may compete in any Interclub competition offered by NALA. If Clubs wish to use a Novelty name they must also include part of the Club name.

### 2. JUDGING.

Any person knowledgeable of the agility/flygility/rallyO rules may act as a judge. Two judges may officiate, one judge competing under the other judge. Care must be taken to provide consistent judging. All judging will be based on the current acceptable standards in NZ.

Exceptions are:

- a) Weave poles: no faults or refusals except for touching the dog, but they must be correctly negotiated.
- b) Crossover: Judging level to be mentioned on the plan.
- c) Long jump: if corner poles appear on the plan they must be used.
- d) There is no SCT or MCT.

### 3. COURSE PLANS:

Any subscriber is welcome to submit a course plan, by Course designer, or clearly drawn to scale on an A4 sheet. The ring size for agility is 30m x 40m, and for rallyO is 20 x20m maxm for every month.

### 4. COURSE LENGTH, MEASUREMENTS AND TIMING.

When setting up the course, distances must be checked with a meter wheel, following the path laid out on the plan. The total length of the course must coincide with that stated in the plan, margin of error is 1m. Where specific instructions are included on the plan these must be adhered to. The course layout should be checked so that where the plan shows jumps/signs in a straight line or on angles this is done. Check grids and line up obstacles along a grid, so that the character of the course is adhered to.

Electronic timers or an accurate stop-watch must be used, with times being recorded to 100ths of a second.

### 5. SCORING AND RESULTS. *(Unless specified otherwise with the Course Brief)*

The club will submit the score of each competitor's FIRST run over the course.

**No previous practice over that particular course is allowed. (\*\* See comment at the end of this document)**

Agility: The competitor's score consists of the time taken to run the course plus any faults caused by course faults. A competitor who has NO course faults will receive a bonus by having 5 secs subtracted from the running time.

RallyO: The competitor's score consists of the time taken for the round plus a score out of 100.

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The club co-ordinator must enter results on the website or forward results to reach the AGILITY LINK Results Recorder before the last day of the month of running. Late results or results from members who are not financial, will not be published or credited.

### 6. OBSTACLE STANDARDS.

The Club should use its own equipment. All obstacles must be of safe construction. Where levels of height or length may differ, in Agility Link competitions the obstacles should be set at their maximum height/length.

### 7. COMPETITION

#### a) Interclub.

A club's score in any month will be the sum of the scores of that club's three best performers for that month. A club will be credited with points for that month equal to the place it gains, e.g. The club that achieves 1st Place is credited with 1 point, the 2nd club 2 points, etc.

**Top Club Award** will go to the club with the lowest total after adding together that club's EIGHT lowest scores. If, finally, two clubs are on the same aggregate score the club with the lower team aggregate for the LAST month they both competed together, will have preference. (Note: this may be altered during Covid 2020 conditions)

#### Agility Divisions.

There will be three or four Divisions, with approximately similar numbers in each division. Clubs may organise more than one team but the Club's second or third team must start in the fourth division, and handlers/dogs will run for the same team all year. All new teams/clubs will start in the lowest division.

Relegation/promotion: The results recorder will publish promotions/relegations with the aim to reward the top teams by promotion, and to ensure the size of divisions is maintained approximately even.

#### Dogs in Teams.

Where a Club has more than one Team in the competition, Senior dogs (at DogsNZ Championship level) or those with a clear round in ADX advanced must be included in the top team (this applies at the beginning of the year when Teams are first set up).

New members (except for Senior dogs or dogs with a clear round in ADX advanced ) may be added to any Club team.

NALA members who move during a competition year may have their score credited to whichever Club they choose.

#### **(b) Individual Dog.**

The same principle will apply as for Interclub. Any member of NALA may compete in the monthly competition, under the one subscription, with more than one dog. Awards will be given to the first 10% (approx) of dogs.

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AGILITY LINK may, from time to time, offer **other forms of competition**, depending on sponsorship, and interest.

### **8. CLASSES AND ELIGIBILITY.**

Jumpers: Three times a year the courses will contain NO contact obstacles. All dogs may compete.

Games: An annual Games competition is now available. A standard results sheet is available from the co-ordinator.

**\*\* Members should warm their dogs up prior to running the course.**

A club should ideally set up equipment outside the course proper, however a dog may also warm-up on equipment included in the course, at the discretion of the NALA co-ordinator.

If this is the case, only one or two pieces can be used at a time and they are to be used the OPPOSITE way to that which they will be run on the course.

No food is to be used during the warmup on the course.

For example you may want to put your dog on the A-frame, weave or dogwalk a few times and reward with a toy. This is allowed. Practice jumps are easily set up, but many clubs wouldn't get out two pieces of contact equipment.